



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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New Stewardship Brochure Explores Underground World

What do potatoes, woodchucks and ants have in common? All three can be found living in the underground world beneath our feet. This dark, subterranean habitat is the subject of the latest brochure in the Fairfax County Stewardship series.

Worms and other bugs aren't the only things found living beneath the earth's surface. Fox pups need the shelter of their burrows to survive predators and frigid winter temperatures. Birds like the Belted Kingfisher nest in muddy riverbanks. And some cicadas may spend up to 17 years underground feeding on tree sap before emerging into the summer air.

Non-living things can be found underground too. Buried artifacts such as stone tools and broken pottery provide valuable clues to how our predecessors lived. How many more secrets still lie buried below?

The brochure's glossy, color photos shed light on the inhabitants of the underground world, and the words tell their stories. It also unfolds into a small poster, providing a handy educational tool. Look for the brochure's brown cover at Fairfax County Park Authority RECenters, nature centers and historic sites.

The award winning series of stewardship brochures was created by the Fairfax County Park Authority in partnership with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in support of the county's environmental agenda. Other subjects covered in the comprehensive series include wildlife, invasive plants, pets in parks, and treasures.

Brochures are also available on the ninth floor of the Herrity Building in Fairfax. For more information, please call 703-324-8701, or to download stewardship brochures, visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/stewardshipbrochures.htm>

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